



2290 16

ROLLA JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PO Box 1200 • Rolla, ND 58367

(701) 477-9130

Fax: (701) 477-9633

Email: rollajda@utma.com www.rolla.nd.utma.com

March 15, 2011

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

MAR 21 2011

Part of
Public Record



**Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 473X) BNSF Railway Company – Abandonment
Exemption – in Rolette and Towner Counties, North Dakota**

Dear Ms. Brown:

As negotiations proceed for the possible purchase of the above line by a North Dakota short line company, I would respectfully request that a stay of BNSF's request, as stipulated in the STB's previous Service Date communications, be granted thus allowing sufficient time for fruitful negotiations for the possible purchase of this line.

Rail transportation to this region of North Dakota is a critically needed service not only to maintain the rail car traffic for our small grains shipping but it also serves as a needed service for the recruitment of potentially new business for this region. Additionally, we are located just a few miles from a major Native American Reservation (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, Belcourt, ND), who have a population of approximately 10,000 people, a very high unemployment and are desirous to restart their manufacturing facilities. The aspect of being able to ship product out via rail, is a very positive message to send to those who may consider our area for future business development.

We would respectfully request that we be granted sufficient time to pursue ownership and purchase negotiations, apply for and establish appropriate funding all of which would allow this line to once again be open for the shipment of our products nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Youngerman".

George Youngerman
Executive Director

Cc: See attached Certificate of Service

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

March 15, 2011

**Kristy D. Clark
General Attorney
BNSF Railway Company
2500 Lou Menk Drive, AOB-3
Fort Worth, Texas 76131-2828**

**John Hoeven, Senator
U.S. Senate
G-11 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510**

**Karl Morrell
Balljanik, LLP
1455 F Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005**